

Conference Call: Arkansas Environmental Justice (EJ) Update

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time)

Call-In Number: 1-866-299-3188

Conference Code: 214-665-2261

PIN: 7242. * 6 – Mute. # 6 – Unmute. * 5 Mute All (Except Leader). # 5 Unmute All.

Remember to:

1. Place phones on mute to reduce background noise (*6 and #6)
2. Identify self before speaking

Agenda

1. Introduction of New EJ Team Leader – Ms. Gloria Vaughn is the new Associate Director for Environmental Justice (EJ Team Leader) for OEJTIA. This will be an opportunity to get to know more about Ms. Vaughn, share information about your organization, and ask any questions you may have.
2. Community Participatory Port Resilience Project in Memphis, TN – Ms. Siobhan Whitlock, EPA Region 4 (Atlanta, GA), will provide an overview of this project which focuses on providing assistance to communities in close proximity to goods movement facilities and activities. The project seeks to engage nearby communities such as West Memphis, AR.
3. FY2017 Environmental Justice Small Grants – The request for proposals is still open, and the new deadline to apply is February 10, 2017. For more information, click [here](#).
4. Arkansas Environmental Justice Collaborative Action Plan and EJ 2020 – The current action plan will be updated to show how its key activities are related to the goals and priorities contained in EJ 2020. We are now in the second year of the plan's two-year cycle and will be discussing how to continue beyond 2017. Please see attachment.
5. Next and Future Calls Schedule
 - a. May 16, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.
 - b. August 15, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.
 - c. November 14, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Talking Points

1. Welcome everyone to the quarterly Environmental Justice Update call for Arkansas. I'm Tressa Tillman, the EJ Community Liaison for Arkansas. Roll Call.
2. Introduction of New EJ Team Leader – The first item on today's agenda is the introduction of our new Associate Director for Environmental Justice Ms. Gloria Vaughn. Welcome Gloria. Would you take a few moments to tell the group about yourself and your experience.
3. Since this is Gloria's first call. I'd also like our Arkansas community folks to introduce yourselves and tell her a little about your organization.
4. Does anyone have any questions for Gloria?
5. Community Participatory Port Resilience Project in Memphis, TN – Next on the agenda, we have invited Ms. Siobhan Whitlock from the EPA Region 4 office in Atlanta, GA to provide an overview on the Community Participatory Port Resilience Project in Memphis, TN. Thank you for joining us today, Siobhan. Please tell us more about the project. Are there any questions for Siobhan?
6. FY2017 Environmental Justice Small Grants – The request for proposals for this year's EJ Small grants closed on February 10, 2017. EPA Headquarters is now conducting their threshold review of the proposals received. Threshold review looks at the basic requirements that each proposal must meet to be considered. The threshold review is scheduled to be completed by February 24, 2017. Once headquarters completes their threshold review, the proposals will be sent to each respective regional office for competitive review. The competitive review is when a panel of regional staff review and score the proposals according to the evaluation criteria. We expect to complete the competitive review and make selection recommendations by April 28, 2017. Are there any questions about the EJSGs?
7. Arkansas Environmental Justice Collaborative Action Plan and EJ 2020 – Next on the agenda is the Arkansas EJ Collaborative Action Plan and EJ 2020. EPA released the EJ 2020 Action Agenda in October of 2016. We will be updating the Arkansas plan to show how its key activities support the goals and priorities contained in EJ 2020. I sent an attachment that shows how the plan will be updated starting in April. The plan itself is not changing. We simply wanted to show the links between the key activities in the Arkansas plan and EJ 2020. Are there any questions?
8. As we move through the second year of the plan's two-year cycle, now is the time to think about how to continue beyond 2017. We want to get your honest feedback about the plan. What worked well, and what could be improved? Was it too much? Not enough? As we begin focusing on EJ 2020, do we still need a state plan? Now that we will be providing the Region 6 EJ Report, is the state plan redundant? Does anyone have any thoughts or comments?
9. Next and Future Calls Schedule. Our next call is scheduled for May 16, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Please feel free to send my any discussion items for the agenda.
10. Thanks to everyone for joining us for today's call. Happy Valentine's Day. Bye-bye!